मंत्रालय से संबंधित नहीं है। यह आप अगर बलराम जाखड़ जी से पूछते तो ज्यादा उत्तम रहता ।

श्री सोमपाल : फर्टिलाइजर मिनिस्ट्री से भी संबंधित है।

श्री सभापति : कैसे फर्टिलाइजर इस्तेमाल होता है, किस तरह से जमीन में डाला जाए, क्या किया जाए, यह तो उनका काम है।

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether, there is any proposal to start an ArttmoAVPlant in Israel with Indian collaboration:

SHRICHINTA MOHAN : Sir, there is no sueh proposal at present.

प्रसार भारती विधेयक का पेश किया जाना

*145 **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रसार भारती अधिनियम को लागू किये जाने के संबंध में अद्यतन स्थिति क्या है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इस संबंध में संसद में कोई संशोधन विधेयक पेश करने का विचार रखती है यदि हां, तो कब तक ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) और (ख) प्रसार भारतीय अधिनियम को कार्य रूप दिए जाने से पूर्व कई अनिवार्य औपचारिकताएं पूरी की जानी हैं, उसमें संशोधन किए जाने हैं और कई कदम उठाए जाने हैं। सरकार को मामले की जानकारी है।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : सभापति जी, देश के कई कोनों में पत्रकारों के ऊपर प्रहार हो रहे हैं, उनका शोषण हो रहा है और कई बार सरकार मूक दर्शक बनकर देखती है। बछावत आयोग की सिफारिशों के संबंध में पिछले दिनों इस सदन में जो सवाल आया सरकार उसका उत्तर ठीक से नहीं दे सकी। इसके साथ ही मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहता था, फिर भी यहां मेन्शन करना, कहना जरूरी है कि अभी भी जो तमिलनाडु में जहां कहीं भी पत्रकारों के ऊपर जो कुछ हो रहा है उससे हर जगह यह चिंता व्याप्त हो रही है कि पत्रकारों को सुरक्षा मिलना आवश्यक है। उस क्रम में प्रसार भारती के संबंध में केवल इसी सरकार ने नहीं बल्कि पिछली सरकारों ने भी या पिछली सरकार ने भी यह वचन दिया था सदन में कि पत्रकारिता के मानदंडों को ऊंचा उठाने के लिए प्रसार भारती की स्थापना हम करेंगे। जहां तक मुझे याद है, इस सदन में पिछले दिनों वर्तमान सरकार ने कहा था कि 6 महीने के अंदर वह विधेयक सदन के पटल पर लाएगी। इस आलोक में जो उत्तर है, जो मंत्री महोदया ने अभी जवाब दिया कि अनिवार्य औपचारिकताएं पूरी की जानी है तथा उसमें संशोधन किए जाने हैं, मैं जानना चाहता हूं इस सरकार से कि ये अनिवार्य औपचारिकताएं प्रसार भारती के संबंध में कब तक पूरी होंगी और उसमें उचित संशोधन जो आपको करने हैं वे कब तक पूरे करके इसे सदन के सामने लाएंगे ।

कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास : माननीय सभापति महोदय, पहले तो मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहती हूं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य महोदय को कि संभवतः उनको थोड़ा समझने में भूल हुई है। प्रसार भारती एक्ट केवल इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया से संबंधित है। वह ब्रॉडकास्टिंग कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया एक्ट, 1990 है। इसलिए बछावत आयोग से और नॉन इलेक्ट्रोनिक मीडिया से उसका कोई लेन-देन नहीं है। इसलिए आपका यह पूछना कि पत्रकारों पर होने वाले हमले प्रसार भारती बिल से कैसे कम होंगे, मैं निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि इसका प्रसार भारती से कोई संबंध नहीं है। दूसरा प्रश्न जो आपने किया कि प्रसार भारती बिल एक ऑटोनोमी

लेकर के आना चाहता था और पिछली सरकारों ने इसके प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता दिखायी थी। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि इस एक्ट को 12 सितम्बर, 1990 में जब प्रेजीडेंट से भी स्वीकृति मिल गयी, लेकिन इसके बाद कुछ इस प्रकार के घटनाक्रम इस देश में हुआ कि यह एक्ट पारित नहीं हो सका और इसी बीच चुनाव घोषित हो गये। मैं यहां यह भी निवेदन करना चाहती हूं और यहां पर हमारे कांग्रेस के अध्यक्ष राजीव जी को विशेष तौर पर धन्यावाद देना चाहती हूं इस सदन से कि दूरगामी दृष्टि से उन्होंने अपने मेनिफेस्टो में यह निश्चित किया कि यह केवल प्रसार भारती बिल ही ऑटोनामी इस देश में नहीं ला सकता। उसको भी कम्प्लीट करने के लिए यहां पर पब्लिक कार्पोरेशन होना आवश्यक है और उनकी इसी प्रतिबद्धता को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए नयी सरकार ने भी इसे अपनी प्रतिबद्धता माना और इस ओर कदम उठाने शुरू किये। इस बीच जो डिबेट इस सदन में और उस सदन में हुई और कुछ अमेंडमेंट जो विशेष तौर पर विभिन्न मिनिस्ट्रीज से भी प्राप्त हुए इसलिए हेस्ट में यह निर्णय लिया जाना कतई असंभव था। इसलिये मैं निवेदन करना चाहती हुं माननीय सदस्यों को कि इस संबंध में अति शीघ्र कार्यवाही की जायेगी, जो हमारे मेनिफेस्टो की प्रतिबद्धता को भी दर्शायेगा और जो विभिन्न तरफ से आये हुए संशोधनों की भी पूर्ति कर सकेगा।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री महोदया ने कहा कि मुझे समझने में गलती हुई। मुझे खुशी है कि उन्होंने समझाने का प्रयास किया लेकिन वह ठीक से समझा नहीं सकी। मेरी मंशा बछावत आयोग का जिक्र करने या शोषण के क्रम में प्रसार भारती के संबंध में डायरेक्ट नहीं थी। मैं यह कहना चाहता था कि मीडिया की स्वतंत्रता के लिये प्रसार भारती का निर्माण हो रहा था। मुझे दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट 1991-92 की जो सदन में कल-परसों अभी हाल में प्रस्तुत की गयी है, उसमें कहीं भी प्रसार भारती का जिक्र तक नहीं है, जबकि इलेक्ट्रोनिक्स मीडिया की सारी बातों को आपने इसमें लिया है। इन बातों को मददे नजर रखते हुए मैं सरकार की मंशा जानना चाहता हूं? आपने राजीव जी के प्रति कृतज्ञता व्यक्त की, मैं भी इस मामले में कृतज्ञ हूं। लेकिन कृतज्ञता ज्ञापन का यह अर्थ नहीं है कि आप कोरे आश्वासनों से उनके प्रति कृतज्ञता ज्ञापित करें। मैं चाहता हूं कि अगर उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया तो उनको पूरा करते हुए उनके प्रति आप कृतज्ञता ज्ञापित करें। इसलिये मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि आप एक अवधि बतायें, क्योंकि यह बहुत वेग उत्तर है। इतना छोटा सा उत्तर है कि प्रसार भारती अधिनियम को कार्यरूप दिये जाने से पूर्व कई अनिवार्य औपचारिकताएं पूरी की जानी हैं, उसमें संशोधन किये जाने हैं और कई कदम उठाये जाने हैं। बताइये कि यह कदम, यह औपचारिकताएं और इस तरह के संशोधन कब तक पूरे होंगे और, सदन में कब आयेंगे? इस साल आयेंगे, अगले सत्र में आयेंगे, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं?

कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं पहले ही निवेदन कर चुकी हूं कि हम लोग पूरी तरह से जो कुछ पिछली सरकारों ने किया और जिसके प्रति हमारे पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री और कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष जी प्रतिबद्ध थे, अपनी प्रतिबद्धता को मैंने शब्दों के द्वारा यहां पर दरसाया। मैं फिर निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि अति शीघ्र का अर्थ अति शीघ्र ही है।

श्री सभापति : अति शीघ्र इस पर विचार किया जायेगा, अति शीघ्र निर्णय लिया जायेगा, अति शीघ्र सब काम हो जायेगा।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : अति शीघ्र वाले भी खड़े हो गये।

श्री सभापति : इसलिए श्री उपेन्द्र ने देर नहीं की और अति शीघ्र खड़े हो गये।

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, the Prasar Blihrti Act was passed with rare unanimity

and the Congress Party was privy to it. They had cooperated in the passage of the Bill and a number of amendments suggested by them were incorporated in the Bill. The Congress manifesto also says, within 365 days they will implement the Bill. He now says 'as soon as possible'. The Minister has at several places committed that he would do that within 365 days. Three hundred and sixty-five days will be completed by next month. 1 would like to know from the Minister whether this Corporation will come into being by next month or not. What are those amendments which you are aiming at ? There is no indication of them anywhere. If it is to provide for competition the Bill provides for competition under the Indian Telegraph Act of 1885. You can give licences to anybody you want under that Act. It was also provided at the instance of the Congress party at that time. Even if your manifesto talks of competitive channel, it is already provided in the Bill. They are all confused. The Minister is very much confused. First he talked about private channel. Now he talks about the second ■ national channel. 1 don't know what the policy is. I feel all this is lo scuttle the Bill. 1 want a definite answer from the Minister. What do you mean by 'as soon as possible' ? What is the difficulty in implementing the Bill if you are interested in the autonomy of the electronic media ? You should immediately implement the Bill. If you want to bring any amendments you can bring them later. Will the Minister commit himself to that ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : Sir, I can assure the hon. Mem> ber that there is no confusion so far as the implementation of this Act is concerned. There was unanimity in both the Houses and T was also a party to it, as Mr. Upendra was as the Minister. Debates took place in both the Houses and thereafter, hon. Members who were present at that time may remember, at the fag end of the then Government's time it was hurriedly agreed to do. There were very good debates in this. House. I particularly remember of Mr. Salve Who was present here. But there are certain important aspects, {a) Regarding employees it was thought that they would be given option. But nothing;,was provided for those who do not give option. What will Happen-to them ? Will they remain as engineers or performers and if so, where ? The entire thing goes to Prasar Bharati. They cannot do anything, else in the Information and Broadcasting. That was not thought of. J don't blame the Minister. But that was argued and debated in this House by hon. Members, (b) The entire assets have to be transferred and vested in the Corpora-tion-public assets worth Rs. 12,000 crores-. It was thought that Government would divest itself of' the entire assets and give them to the Ptfasar Bharati Corporation without" any safety latch at all. Therefore, If anything happens we can fall back on section 25 to supersede. But by that time if anything * happens to the public property worth Rs. 12,000 crores there is 'no safety latch given, this was argued for three hours and it was . cogently, argued by Mr. Salve. This point was analysed, I humbly say, by fne persorially arid we found that the reasons are very good. Therefore, we have sent it to the Law Department to find out what required to be done. Then the other question asked by Mr,, Upendra comes. What are the other amendments ? We find that even though the Parliament passes the supersession order it goes back to the executive to apply its mind. We think the Parliament'is supreme. After the Parliament passes the order that Prasar Bharti Board "-should be' supersedecl,' it has to be superseded. No executive can sit in judgement'-on the supersession. *We have taken it to the Law Department' to " find out whether "the executive can" sit-in judgement: afterthe Parliament "unanimously passed the order andwhefher'it is valid in law or" not. That we have to take into consideration. These are the main points. We are at it. On 12 Sejtfember 1990 the assent of the President was- obtained and thereafter the Government-changeif. Then another Govern-ment came. But'nothing was done. If was kept in cold storage/ We have started work-ing, as I said in this House and also in the Lok Sabha, Immediately after this Government o«me to potfer. It is not that the Prasar Bharati will comc inlo effect w'itHn

one'year Two things are givein our*am manifeste'which* have to bet considered along With the Corporation cording into being. Mr. Upendra knows it because' he had- applied his[r] mind to the-subjects We had a close discussion oft as that timet Pwas inthe Opposition. Since Septamber 1990->-and it is now May1992--sechan^s have talteniphic^'in^the-eifect media Satellites coming in arid bearning on their own-were' not thought' of at that time It was not visualised at that tittle Then public corporations' are to bat Abated. They are; taking their right by entering into direct contract for which lnternational law doesnot-give" arty-protection Thesef' are the- main- points whteH'We" should look into; It is a powerful media'. As my collegues has* said, we arc at i it. We cannot' give any positive' date by which we wilt be able to do it: It has to be dengerated uponfij AS If was unanimous at that time to talk to the opposition tiotv Members particulary[1] Mr. Upendra'

MR. CHAIRMA*) : You talk to him.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA-: Certainly; Sirs We have- to" tallMo htrav

SHRPP: OT£NBRA: Sir, the Minister is not- correct on' alltHe" three-" points'. Numberef one' is optibW* to ' thee employees. Sir, exact;y tne satnfer pftjeeyure' has been preSSHbed' ___

MR! CHAIRMA^ : He ' has said that these are" thequestions winch are ....

SHRI. P. UPENDRA: No, Sir. The Corporations wene. formed- earlier. There is a fixed procedure- for; that and the same proced-me has been, prescribed for Prasar Bharti. If people.da not,want to go there, they, will be declared, surplus. They will be absorbed spmewherei .else. Sir; there is already an steading rule. As regards assets also they) have not been .... *(Interruptions),* How can he say that this is to be clarified and that is toobe clarified and all that ? Once the Parliament! decides, it is for the executive to execute the order. Parliament cannot pass orders. Parliament will give its opinion and on the basis of that-the eseca,tive. wilt issue the order. If you want to amen these Sections, you' do it quickly, How muclir time-take-t»fee to bring, these three- amendments ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will discuss with yott.*

SHRT AJIT KUMAR PAN J A : Sir, if for bringing this Act Mr. Upendra had to spend his tntire term ..... *(Interruptions).* It is not correct. I think Mr. Upendra has forgotten the provision. I don't want to blame him. It is not correct. If surplus is there, they will have to be put in a surplus cell. They will have to be paid. They cannot be forced to go somewhere. We cannot just turn them out. Suppose one engineer with 20 to 30 years experience opts to remain in Government, we cannot turn him out. It is not possible.

SHRI[1] N. K, P. SALVE : Sir, having worked" in- this Ministry 1 can say with authority that confusion there is, but not of' its* own creation ; it is a precious legacy or'[1]this Ministry.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Was this confusion created by this Ministry ?

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : It is a precious legacy of this Ministry. Sir, I am all for competition. I am all for liberalisation and all that. But let us not make it simplistic, Sir, the Defence Ministry refused to allow instillation of an antenna of the CNN in the Bhandiira Ordnance Faetbry on the ground that security was involved. May I know from the Minister—because this angle was not considered then and the question is of security of the country—whether this Ministry ever consulted the Defence Ministry with respect to making over the entire asset of Rs. 12,000 crores to a corporation over [!] which the Government will have m?ghty little[1] control'? I would like to know *inter alia* whether you are considering the defence angle.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : Sir, so far as the first portion of the question is concerned,, when the provision was made for handing over .... *(Interruptions).*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Speak of legacy.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : If it is a legacy, I have to find out from son, grandson and grent-gtand-son, widow- daughter, daughter's- son, father, mothen We need not

go into that because Mr. Salve was also a Minister in I and B.

SHRI P, SHIV SHANJKER : One grand-father has already admitted.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : Usually the-principle that is followed whenever such athing comes up is, a Cabinet note is sent to all the departments. I am not sure whether the previous Government seaMtto the Defence Ministry. Butt I suppose all the department's notes came in according to the Cabinet's Memo of circulation. I will have to .check it up and answer.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Sir, the installation, of an antenna has not *been* "permitted far the civilians who reside in that aia Where .an ordnance factory is located at Bhandara. The Defence Minister had done that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Defence Minister was the Chief Minister when this question came up.

SHRI P. SHIV SHAN.KER : What ,a bad legacy, Sir ?

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA : Any licence to be given is . controlled by the Department of Telecommunation and they being the nodal agency deal with other , departments as well, including : Defence department.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Financial requirements for fertilizer pecjects

*143. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up an inter-ministerial working group to study the financial requirements For setting up fertiliser .projects during the Eighth Pan period ;

(b) if so, by when the study group would submit its report ;

,(c)f whether the production of fertilizer by;fl>ufejie sector enterprises is not upto the mark; and

t (d). if so, what steps Goverment propose to: take to None, upline production capacity of fertilizer units in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CH1NTA (MOHAN): (a) and (b) On 24th 'March, 1992, Inter-Ministerial Committee for assessing and quantifying the requieement of funds and lor identifying the possible sources of funds for various fertilizer projects an the public and cooperative sectors, that are under consideration. The Committee expects to submit its report by June, 1,992.

(c) Except the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation(HFC) and the Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI), which are old loss(making companies public sector, the other public sector fertilizer companies are performing well in terms of fertilizer production.

(d) The over poduction performance of the fertiliser industry .Jias^eensaitisfactoiy, as is evident from 88.5% capacity utilisation in the case of nitrogenous plants and 93% in the , case pf. phosphatic plants during 1991-92.

To improve production further, Government encouraging various units, to under-

increase production and .inprove viability.

Transfer of Rocket Technology from Russia

146, /SHRIMATI VEENA V£RMA .

SHRI VJSW.WASRAO RAMRAO RATJL:

WillafaeWilME MINISTER be pleased to,state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia has suspended transfer 6f rocket technology to India ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) what is the latest position about the contrast signed between Russian and Indian space agencies about iransifer of rocket technology ; and

(d) what steps .Government propose to take for transfer of rqeket ..technology from fcttSSi*?